General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 92 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/59/490/Add.1)*]

59/252. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000, 56/208 of 21 December 2001, 57/268 of 20 December 2002 and 58/223 of 23 December 2003,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[1] and the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[2]

Acknowledging the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the functioning of the Institute,

Noting the continued progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the strengthened cooperation with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that the bulk of the resources contributed to the Institute are directed to the Special Purpose Grants Fund rather than to the General Fund, stressing the need to address that unbalanced situation, and also noting that the participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing,

Noting also that the Institute is self-funded, not receiving any kind of subsidies from the United Nations regular budget, and delivers, free of charge, training courses to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Noting further the various ongoing training programmes of the Institute, including those in the field of sustainable development,

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[1] A/59/230.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 14* (A/59/14).

Reiterating that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and training, based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of work among the relevant institutions and bodies;

2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States, and the relevance of the training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and in this context underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of those partnerships, in particular at the country level;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the activities of the Institute's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Hiroshima, Japan, during its first year of existence;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Institute's Project Field Office in Dushanbe;

6. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue to ensure fair and equitable geographical distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and in this regard stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues and the management of international affairs;

7. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider diversifying further the venues of the events organized by the Institute and to include the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and reduce costs;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the one-time provision to cancel the Institute's past debts decided upon in section XIV of General Assembly resolution 58/272 of 23 December 2003;

10. *Stresses* the need for continued consideration of the issues related to the Institute's rent, rental rates and maintenance costs, taking into account its financial situation, with a view to its expeditious resolution;

11. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to resolve the critical financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base and to further increasing the contributions to the General Fund;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including details on the status of contributions to and the financial situation of the Institute,

and decides to consider the issue of the periodicity of the agenda item entitled "Training and research" at its sixtieth session.

75th plenary meeting
22 December 2004

General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 92 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/59/490/Add.2)*]

59/253. United Nations University

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the United Nations University, including resolution 57/267 of 20 December 2002,

Having considered the report of the Council of the United Nations University, as presented by the Rector of the University on 16 November 2004,[1] and the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

Bearing in mind the importance of the intellectual contributions made by the University for the United Nations system,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the voluntary contributions made by Governments and other public and private entities in support of the University,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the implementation of the "Strategic Plan, 2000", which lays out broad programmatic orientations with special focus on the priority concerns of the United Nations and the need to bring together theory and practice in a global perspective, and requests the United Nations University to continue to attach importance to the priority agendas of the United Nations system;

2. *Highly appreciates* the successful steps taken by the University to promote the work and visibility of the University, including its research and training centres and programmes, to strengthen interaction with and contributions to the work of the United Nations system and to create new networks of activity with the academic communities in host countries, including Japan, and encourages the University to continue with such efforts;

3. *Expresses particular appreciation* of the University's support to scholars from developing countries and the countries with economies in transition, especially young scholars, through its capacity and network development activities;

4. *Notes with interest* the inauguration of the new research and training programme in Bonn, Germany, and encourages the University to continue with efforts towards creating a critical mass of viable research and training centres and

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 31* (A/59/31).

[2] A/59/566.

programmes around the world, focused in particular on meeting the urgent needs and concerns of developing countries;

5. *Welcomes* the adoption and use by the University of computer-mediated dissemination and learning technologies through the United Nations University Online Learning initiative, and in particular the establishment of the Global Virtual University, which facilitates the intensification of activities in the areas of education and training, and encourages the further strengthening of these activities;

6. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the consolidation of the joint initiative by the University and the United Nations Office at Geneva to convene a yearly research and policy dialogue that is thematically focused and involves the United Nations system and other entities engaged in policy research and analysis;

7. *Encourages* the University to continue its efforts to implement the Secretary-General's suggestion on innovative measures to improve interaction and communication between the University and other United Nations entities, in particular by identifying and giving priority to common themes of interest;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage other bodies of the United Nations system to utilize more fully the capacity of the University for mobilizing a worldwide network of applied policy researchers to assist the United Nations, through research and capacity development, in resolving pressing global problems;

9. *Appreciates* the efficiency gains achieved by the University in order to make optimal use of modest and limited resources, and emphasizes the continuing need for cost-effectiveness in conducting the activities of the University;

10. *Welcomes* the University's increasing efforts to widen and diversify its financial base, and invites the international community to make voluntary contributions to the University, in particular to its Endowment Fund, as a means of consolidating the distinctive identity of the University in the United Nations system and the international academic community;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the sub-item entitled "United Nations University".

75th plenary meeting
22 December 2004

United Nations A/RES/59/254

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 38 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.33/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

59/254. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling also its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and resolution 58/233 of 23 December 2003 entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support",

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, also the need for their development efforts to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[1]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: second consolidated report on progress in implementation and international support",[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[3]

3. *Also reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on 27 June 2001;[4]

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[1] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] A/59/206.

[3] A/57/304, annex.

[4] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

4. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the New Partnership as well as regional and international support for the New Partnership, while acknowledging that much needs to be done in the implementation of the New Partnership;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of a Peace and Security Council within the African Union, stresses that conflict prevention, management and resolution and post-conflict consolidation are essential for the achievement of the objectives of the New Partnership, and welcomes, in this regard, the cooperation and support granted by the United Nations and development partners to the African regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of the New Partnership;

I

Actions by African countries and organizations

6. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to continue their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and the development of the region;

7. *Also welcomes* the progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, including through the establishment of a trust fund to support the activities of the Mechanism, to which participating countries will make financial contributions, and the launching of support missions to several African countries;

8. *Further welcomes* the efforts made by African countries in developing sectoral policy frameworks and implementing specific programmes of the New Partnership, including by establishing expenditure targets in sectoral priority areas of the New Partnership, and encourages them to continue to integrate the priorities of the New Partnership into their national development plans and frameworks, including poverty reduction strategies, where they exist;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance for African countries of continuing to coordinate, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to integrate effectively such assistance into their development processes;

10. *Welcomes* the commitment of African countries to advance the implementation of the New Partnership, acknowledges, in this regard, the role of the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee of the New Partnership in furthering the implementation of the New Partnership, and welcomes the New Partnership summits held so far, as well as the upcoming summits;

11. *Also welcomes* the approval by the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee of the New Partnership of priority infrastructural and capacity-building projects to be implemented by the regional economic communities;

12. *Encourages* the further integration of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership into the programmes of the regional structures and organizations, as well as programmes for the African least developed countries;

13. *Appreciates* the increasing efforts of African countries in mainstreaming a gender perspective and empowerment of women in the implementation of the New

Partnership, and in this regard welcomes the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, adopted by the African Union at its third ordinary session in Addis Ababa from 6 to 8 July 2004,[3] and encourages the African countries to track progress in the full integration of women into African social, political and economic life;

14. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including, inter alia, measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship;

II

Response of the international community

15. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

16. *Acknowledges* the importance of various initiatives, such as the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process, the Africa Action Plan of the Group of Eight, initiated at Genoa, Italy, as developed at the Summit of the Group held in Kananaskis, Canada, in 2002, and furthered at their subsequent Summits held in Evian, France, in 2003, and at Sea Island, United States of America, in 2004, as well as the Africa Partnership Forum in support of the implementation of the New Partnership, emphasizes, in this regard, the importance of effective coordination of such initiatives for Africa, and looks forward to the forthcoming report of the Commission for Africa;

17. *Welcomes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation;

18. *Stresses* the need to mobilize additional resources for Africa's development through promoting South-South cooperation and trade and investment as discussed at various forums, including the Asia-Africa Trade and Investment Conference, held in Tokyo on 1 and 2 November 2004, under the auspices of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development;

19. *Welcomes* the financial support extended by many of the development partners to the various programmes of the New Partnership, and in this regard notes with satisfaction that some developed countries have committed resources for the infrastructure project preparation facility of the New Partnership and have provided resources for institutional strengthening activities at the secretariat of the New Partnership and in some regional economic communities;

20. *Recalls* that regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and encourages development partners to increase their support to enhance the capacities of these communities;

21. *Urges* continued attention to the need to continue to take measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment, as well as transfer of technology;

[3] See African Union, document Assembly/AU/Decl.12 & 13 (III).

22. *Reiterates* the need for the international community, relevant multilateral institutions and developed countries to enhance coherence in their trade, investment, aid and debt policies towards African countries;

23. *Stresses* the need to find comprehensive solutions for the debt problems of African countries, and in this regard welcomes the decision to extend the sunset clause of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative until 31 December 2006 and the ongoing work by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to develop a forward-looking debt sustainability framework for heavily indebted poor countries and low-income countries;

24. *Welcomes* the recent increase in official development assistance by many of the development partners, and urges all development partners to make continued efforts to increase the flows of all resources, public and private, to support the development of African countries and to improve the effectiveness of aid;

25. *Also welcomes* efforts by development partners to align their financial and technical support to Africa more closely to the priorities of the New Partnership, as reflected in national poverty reduction strategies or in similar strategies, and encourages development partners to increase their efforts in this regard;

26. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

27. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the secretariat of the New Partnership and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership;

28. *Notes* that the entities of the United Nations system have been actively using the regional consultation mechanism as a vehicle for fostering collaboration and coordination at the regional level, and encourages them to intensify their efforts in developing and implementing joint programmes in support of the New Partnership at the regional level;

29. *Encourages* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to continue to strengthen further their existing coordination and programming mechanisms, as well as the simplification and harmonization of planning, disbursement and reporting procedures, as a means of enhancing support for African countries in the implementation of the New Partnership;

30. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

31. *Invites* the High-level Plenary Meeting, which is to be held at the commencement of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, in accordance with the modalities set by the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, to address the special needs of African countries;

32. *Urges* the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women to give prominence to the New Partnership in future priority themes;

33. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Secretary-General's Advisory Panel on International Support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and

looks forward to its recommendations on the actions to be taken to enhance support for the implementation of the New Partnership;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa in order to enable it to effectively fulfil its mandate;

35. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the basis of inputs from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the New Partnership, such as the private sector and civil society.

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

United Nations A/RES/59/255

General Assembly

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4 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 38 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.50/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

59/255. Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[1] and its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998, 54/234 of 22 December 1999, 55/217 of 21 December 2000, 56/37 of 4 December 2001, 57/296 of 20 December 2002, 57/337 of 3 July 2003 and 58/235 of 23 December 2003, as well as resolution 59/213 of 20 December 2004 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union,

Recalling also, in this context, Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, and 1366 (2001) of 30 August 2001 on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts,

Recalling further the creation by the Economic and Social Council, by its resolution 2002/1 of 15 July 2002, of ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict,

Reaffirming that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa[2] must remain a priority on the agenda of the United Nations system and for Member States,

Noting with concern the slow progress in the implementation of many of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General, as well as the emergence of trends that could potentially affect the peace and stability of Africa,

Stressing that the responsibility for peace and security in Africa, including the capacity to address the root causes of conflict and to resolve conflicts in a peaceful

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/56/45).

[2] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

manner, lies primarily with African countries, while recognizing the need for support from the international community,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen the synergies between Africa's economic and social development programmes and its peace and security agenda,

1. *Takes note* of the progress report of the Secretary-General[1] on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[2] including an overview of trends and challenges as well as further advances in a wide range of areas made since the last progress report;

2. *Welcomes* the progress that has been made in the prevention and settlement of disputes and the sustained efforts by African regional and subregional initiatives to mediate and resolve conflicts, and the support given by the international community and the United Nations to those efforts;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts to enhance coordination to ensure that African regional and subregional initiatives continue to be taken in close consultation and coordination with the United Nations in order to ensure that the United Nations can play a clear role, as appropriate, in the subsequent implementation of mediated settlements;

4. *Welcomes* the successful establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, and looks forward to the establishment of other supporting elements such as a Panel of the Wise, a continental early warning system, an African standby force and a special fund;

5. *Encourages*, in this context, the international community to continue to support the ongoing efforts of African countries to develop their capacity to undertake peace support operations at regional and subregional levels, including their effort to establish a continental early warning system;

6. *Welcomes* the establishment and coming into force of the African Peace Facility of the European Union to support the implementation of peace initiatives undertaken by the African Union and African subregional organizations;

7. *Also welcomes* the recommendation of the Secretary-General to Member States to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations system, the African Union and other African organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security;

8. *Further welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to instruct relevant agencies, departments and offices of the United Nations to look into new ways of collaborating with the African Union in order to boost its efforts in undertaking peace operations;

9. *Recognizes* the contribution made by the ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict of the Economic and Social Council, as well as by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa of the Security Council, in promoting peace and sustainable development, and emphasizes the need for continued collaboration between the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council in generating a coherent approach to the

[1] A/59/285.

challenges of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction in Africa;

10. *Notes* the support offered by the United Nations system in the context of conflict prevention and peace consolidation, and in this regard calls upon Member States, in particular donor countries, as well as other development partners and relevant regional and subregional organizations as appropriate, to continue to provide financial and technical assistance, in a coordinated and sustained manner, to support activities in Africa, inter alia, to eradicate poverty, promote respect for human rights and strengthen the rule of law and transparent and accountable public administration;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore and recommend suitable arrangements and mechanisms through which Member States could more effectively support Africa's efforts to address the multiple causes of conflict in Africa, including their regional dimensions, and to strengthen, in a coordinated and sustained manner, preventive action as well as post-conflict peacebuilding;

12. *Decides* to continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution.

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

United Nations A RES/59/256

General Assembly

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4 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 46

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.56 and Add.1)*]

59/256. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/135 of 19 December 1994, 50/128 of 20 December 1995, 55/284 of 7 September 2001, 57/294 of 20 December 2002 and 58/237 of 23 December 2003 concerning the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Taking note of the declarations and decisions on health issues adopted by the Organization of African Unity, in particular the declaration and plan of action on the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative adopted at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000,[1] as well as decision AHG/Dec.155 (XXXVI) concerning the implementation of that declaration and plan of action, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,[2]

Also taking note of the Maputo Declaration on Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its second ordinary session, held in Maputo from 10 to 12 July 2003,[3]

Recognizing the linkages in efforts being made to reach the targets set at the Abuja Summit as necessary and important for the attainment of the "Roll Back Malaria" goal and the targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[4] by 2010 and 2015, respectively,

Also recognizing the urgent need for scaling up national malaria control programmes if African countries are to meet the intermediate target set by the Abuja Summit for the five-year period 2000–2005,

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[1] See A/55/240/Add.1.

[2] See A/55/286, annex II.

[3] A/58/626, annex I, Assembly/AU/Decl.6 (II).

[4] See resolution 55/2.

Further recognizing that malaria-related ill health and deaths throughout the world can be eliminated with political commitment and commensurate resources if the public is educated and sensitized about malaria and appropriate health services are made available, particularly in countries where the disease is endemic,

Emphasizing the importance of implementing the Millennium Declaration, and welcoming in this connection the commitment of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

Commending the efforts of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other partners to fight malaria over the years, including the launching of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership in 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Health Organization,[1] and calls for support for the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the "Roll Back Malaria" partner organizations, including the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, as vital complementary sources of support for the efforts of malaria-endemic countries to combat the disease;

3. *Appeals* to the international community to ensure increased support for bilateral and multilateral assistance to combat malaria, including support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, in order to assist in the development of sound national plans to control malaria in malaria-endemic countries and their implementation in a sustained and equitable way that, inter alia, contributes to health system development;

4. *Urges* malaria-endemic countries to increase domestic resource allocation to malaria control;

5. *Encourages* all African countries that have not yet done so to implement the recommendations of the Abuja Summit[1] to reduce or waive taxes and tariffs for nets and other products needed for malaria control, both to reduce the price of nets to consumers and to stimulate free trade in insecticide-treated nets;

6. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries, in particular those in sub-Saharan Africa, to establish and strengthen policies and programmes to ensure a rapid scale-up in the coverage of insecticide-treated nets to at least 60 per cent of those at risk, wherever the use of such nets is the vector-control method of choice, by applying expeditious approaches, including targeted free or highly subsidized distribution to vulnerable groups;

7. *Expresses its concern* about the increase in resistant strains of malaria in several regions of the world;

8. *Encourages* all Member States experiencing resistance to conventional monotherapies to replace them with combination therapies, as recommended by the World Health Organization, in a timely manner;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the development of effective vaccines and new medicines to prevent and treat malaria and the need for further and accelerated research, including through effective global partnerships such as the various malaria vaccine initiatives and the Medicines for Malaria Venture, where necessary stimulated by new incentives to secure their development;

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[1] See A/59/261.

10. *Reiterates* the need for expanded public-private partnerships for malaria control and prevention, and in this context urges petroleum companies operating in Africa to consider providing polymer for the manufacture of mosquito nets at reduced prices as a contribution to rolling back malaria in Africa;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to support investment in the development of new anti-malarial medicines and insecticides for the effective control of malaria in view of the challenging resistance of the parasite to anti-malarial medicines and the resistance of mosquitoes to insecticides;

12. *Also calls upon* the international community to support ways to expand access to artemisinin-based combination therapy for populations at risk of exposure to resistant strains of falciparum malaria in Africa, including the commitment of new funds, innovative mechanisms for the financing and national procurement of artemisinin-based combination therapy and the scaling up of artemisinin production to meet the increased need;

13. *Further calls upon* the international community to support coordinated efforts to improve surveillance, monitoring and evaluation systems so as to better track and report changes in the coverage of recommended "Roll Back Malaria" interventions and subsequent reductions in the burden of malaria;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, developing countries and regional organizations, including the African Union, to conduct in 2005 an evaluation of the measures taken and progress made towards the achievement of the mid-term targets, the means of implementation provided by the international community in this regard and the overall goals of the Decade, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the agenda item entitled "2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa".

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

General Assembly

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8 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 56 (*o*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.41/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

59/257. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the purposes of the United Nations are, inter alia, to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends,

Recalling also that the Charter of the Organization of American States reaffirms these purposes and principles and provides that that organization is a regional agency under the terms of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further that both organizations seek, inter alia, to promote social advancement, improve the standards of living of peoples, particularly in developing countries, and promote the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling its resolution 57/157 of 16 December 2002 on promoting cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States,

Aware that the United Nations and the Organization of American States signed a memorandum of understanding on 3 November 2004 concerning the provision of assistance for the planning, organization and monitoring of the elections in Haiti,

Recalling that one of the common goals of the two organizations is to combat corruption and impunity, and noting that the Inter-American Convention against Corruption[1] is a pioneering international instrument in that field,

Recalling also the fifth high-level meeting between the Secretary-General and heads of regional organizations, held in New York on 29 and 30 July 2003 to review the new threats to international peace and security, including international terrorism, civil and international conflicts, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, poverty, organized crime and violations of human rights, which demonstrated the need for greater synergy in the efforts made by the two organizations,

[1] See E/1996/99.

Noting that during the Special Conference on Security, held in Mexico City on 27 and 28 October 2003, the States members of the Organization of American States defined a new concept of security that is multidimensional in scope and includes traditional and new threats, concerns and challenges to their security,

Mindful of the meeting held in March 2004 between the secretariats of the Organization of American States and the United Nations, which reviewed the progress made in promoting transparency in the area of conventional weapons, and reviewed their cooperation with a view to curbing the illicit traffic in weapons,

Aware of the increased cooperation between bodies of the inter-American system for the protection of human rights and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights,

Noting with grave concern the continuing spread of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in the region, which requires coordinated action at the national, regional and global levels,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States[2] and his continuing efforts to strengthen that cooperation;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the cooperation between the Organization of American States and the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti as well as other bodies and programmes of the system providing assistance and support for the recovery and stability of Haiti, and calls upon them to continue to support the planning, organization and monitoring of elections in 2005 in that country;

3. *Calls for* a prompt mobilization of resources to meet the emergency needs of the Caribbean countries, especially Haiti and Grenada, in the wake of the serious floods and hurricanes that affected that region;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the initiatives to strengthen cooperation with inter-American institutions in various fields, in particular, hemispheric integration, statistics, women and development;

5. *Recognizes* the work of the Organization of American States in promoting democracy, in the field of regional cooperation and in connection with its task of coordination with the United Nations;

6. *Also recognizes* the close cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States in promoting the necessary transparency in all matters concerning the registration of conventional weapons, and calls upon them to continue intraregional dialogue and coordination with a view to curbing the illicit traffic in weapons;

7. *Calls upon* the Organization of American States to actively participate in the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to be held in Port Louis from 10 to 14 January 2005;

8. *Invites* the Organization of American States to participate actively in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, to be held in Kobe, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005;

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[2] See A/59/303.

9. *Calls for* an increase in financial resources and the strengthening of national and regional programmes for combating HIV/AIDS, as well as an increase in the supply of safe, effective and essential medicines at a reasonable cost;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations and the Organization of American States to continue to develop their mutual cooperation in accordance with their respective mandates, jurisdiction and composition and to adapt to each specific situation in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* the holding of periodic meetings between representatives of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, as well as the exchange of information taking place between the two organizations, and recommends that these practices be maintained;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, as appropriate;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States".

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 56 (*k*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.55)*]

59/258. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/39 of 21 November 2002 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[1]

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[2] in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the fields of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

Noting that cooperation between the Latin American Economic System and the United Nations has been evolving, strengthening and diversifying over the years with regard to its areas of cooperation,

Welcoming the changes in the treatment of topics relating to the United Nations system, in close contact with the delegations of the Member States participating in such deliberations,

1. *Takes note* of the holding of the thirtieth regular meeting of the Latin American Council of the Latin American Economic System from 22 to 24 November 2004;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

3. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American Economic System;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for and to strengthen their cooperation with activities of the Latin American Economic

[1] A/59/303

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 1061.

System and to contribute to joint actions to achieve the internationally agreed development objectives, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System to assess, at the appropriate time, the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System[2] and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

[1] See resolution 55/2.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 56 (*d*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.57 and Add.1)*]

59/259. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its resolutions 55/211 of 20 December 2000 and 57/34 of 21 November 2002, on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,[1]

Pointing out the fact that since its transformation into a regional economic organization with an international legal identity as from 1 May 1999, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization has established itself as a reliable partner in boosting economic cooperation in the Black Sea region,

Recognizing that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

[1] Resolution 49/57, annex.

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 57/34,[2]

1. *Welcomes* the statement issued in Istanbul, Turkey, on 25 June 2004 by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on the contribution of the organization to security and stability, and encourages the ongoing process of considering ways and means of enhancing the contribution of the organization to security and stability in the region;

2. *Takes note* of the entry into force of the Additional Protocol to the Agreement among the Governments of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Participating States on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, done in Kyiv on 15 March 2002, as well as the imminent signature of the Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism to the same Agreement;

3. *Welcomes* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in various fields, such as trade and economic development, banking and finance, communications, energy, transport, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceuticals, environmental protection, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among Customs services, and combating organized crime and the illicit trafficking of drugs, weapons and radioactive material, all acts of terrorism and illegal migration, or in any other related area;

4. *Also welcomes* the adoption of the Baku Declaration on energy cooperation in the region of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization by the Ministers of Energy of the States members of the organization on 19 September 2003 and the Joint Declaration by the Ministers of Transport from countries of the Black Sea and Caspian Sea region on 3 October 2003;

5. *Further welcomes* the operationalization and financing of the first projects by the Project Development Fund of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the benefit of the sustainable development of the Black Sea region;

6. *Takes note* of the positive contribution of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, the Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the Black Sea area;

7. *Welcomes* the Cooperation Agreement between the Economic Commission for Europe and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, signed on 2 July 2001, and the support given by the Commission to the activities of the organization in the fields provided for in the Agreement, notably in small and medium-sized enterprises, energy and transportation policy development;

8. *Also welcomes* the collaboration between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme based on the Cooperation Agreement signed in Istanbul on 20 February 2002;

[2] A/59/303, part three.

9. *Further welcomes* the cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as the financial support provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization in implementing the project on institutional strengthening to facilitate intraregional and interregional agricultural trade among States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other projects on trade promotion;

10. *Takes note* of the cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Bank and the World Trade Organization and the working contacts with the World Tourism Organization, aimed at the sustainable development of the Black Sea region;

11. *Also takes note* of the importance attached by the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the strengthening of relations with the European Union, and supports the efforts of the organization to take concrete steps to advance this cooperation;

12. *Further takes note* of the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives;

13. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the two secretariats;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue programmes with the organization and its associated institutions for the achievement of their objectives;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

General Assembly

Distr.: General
22 February 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 98

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/59/496)*]

59/260. Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on the situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in particular resolutions 55/219 of 23 December 2000, 56/125 of 19 December 2001, 57/175 of 18 December 2002 and 58/244 of 23 December 2003,

Reaffirming its resolution 57/311 of 18 June 2003 on the financial situation of the Institute,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/57 of 24 July 2003, in which the Council decided to amend articles III and IV of the statute of the Institute,

Welcoming the constitution of the Executive Board of the Institute, in particular the important results of its first session, held on 27 July 2004, and its resumed first session, held on 1 October 2004,

Welcoming also the adoption by the Executive Board of the framework of the strategic plan for the Institute, 2004–2007,

Bearing in mind the recommendation made by the Executive Board at its resumed first session that the report of the Director of the Institute, the proposed operational budget for 2005 and other relevant documents be submitted to the General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of a number of important strategic initiatives, including the redesign of the web site of the Institute, the strengthening of cooperative arrangements with entities of the United Nations system, the expansion of the research programme of the Institute, the intensification of its fund-raising campaign, the enhancement of communications with governmental agencies, civil society, academia and the private sector, and the strengthening of the training, capacity-building and outreach activities undertaken by the Institute,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

[1] A/59/313.

2. *Welcomes also* the fact that the first phase of the revitalization process has been completed with the preparation of the programme of work, portfolio of projects and related budget of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, as noted by the Secretary-General in his report, and decides that all of its projects should be fully implemented in order to strengthen the Institute, thus enabling it to carry out effectively its mandate, in particular to address the challenges facing women in developing and least developed countries in all regions;

3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the programme of work and strategic plan for the Institute will contribute to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[2] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[3]

4. *Requests* the Institute, in accordance with its mandate, to actively participate in and contribute to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly in the context of the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women;

5. *Also requests* that the Institute, in the formulation of future programmes and projects, take into account the particular challenges facing women in developing and least developed countries in the different regions;

6. *Stresses* the critical importance of voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to enable it to carry out its mandate;

7. *Urges* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, particularly during this critical transitional period;

8. *Decides* to provide its full support to the current efforts to revitalize the Institute and, in this regard, to ensure that the Institute will be able to continue functioning for a period of at least one year;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

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[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[3] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 February 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 101

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/59/499)*]

59/261. Rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the rights of the child, the most recent of which is resolution 58/157 of 22 December 2003, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/48 of 20 April 2004,[1]

Emphasizing that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[3] as well as other relevant human rights instruments,

Welcoming the entry into force on 25 December 2003 of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[4]

Reaffirming the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[5] and the commitments contained therein to promote and protect the rights of each child, every human being below the age of 18 years, including adolescents, and of all major United Nations conferences, and the integration of child rights issues into the outcome documents of all major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits,

Welcoming the reports of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[6] and on progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the document entitled "A world fit for children",[7]

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[3] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[4] Resolution 55/25, annex II.

[5] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[6] A/59/190.

[7] A/59/274.

Welcoming also the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in examining the progress made by States parties to the Convention in implementing the obligations undertaken in the Convention and in providing recommendations to States parties on the implementation of the Convention and, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in enhancing awareness of the principles and provisions of the Convention,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions in an increasingly globalized economic environment, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, environmental damage, natural disasters, armed conflict, displacement, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Underlining the need to mainstream a gender perspective in all policies and programmes relating to children,

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

1. *Reaffirms* that the general principles of, inter alia, the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development provide the framework for all actions concerning children, including adolescents;

2. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] as a matter of priority, and urges States parties to implement it fully, while stressing that the implementation of the Convention and the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children and the special session of the General Assembly on children are mutually reinforcing;

3. *Expresses its concern* about the great number of reservations to the Convention, and urges States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and to consider reviewing other reservations with a view to withdrawing them;

4. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[3] and urges States parties to implement them fully;

5. *Urges* States parties to take all appropriate measures for the implementation of the rights recognized in the Convention by, inter alia, putting in place effective national legislation, policies and action plans, by strengthening relevant governmental structures for children and by ensuring adequate and systematic training in the rights of the child for professional groups working with and for children;

6. *Encourages* States to strengthen their national statistical capacities and to use statistics disaggregated, inter alia, by age, gender and other relevant factors that may lead to disparities and other statistical indicators at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to develop and assess social policies and programmes so that economic and social resources are used efficiently and effectively for the full realization of the rights of the child;

7. *Also encourages* States to strengthen their partnership with United Nations organs, within their respective mandates, the Bretton Woods institutions and other multilateral agencies, and affirms the important role of international cooperation for the purposes of the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, in particular with regard to economic, social and cultural rights;

8. *Calls upon* States to strengthen their cooperation with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and to take into account the recommendations made by the Committee in the implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Committee to reform its working methods so as to consider the reports of States parties in a timely manner, including its proposal to work in two chambers, as an exceptional and temporary measure, for a period of two years, in order to clear the backlog of reports, taking due account of equitable geographical distribution, urges the Committee to continue to review its working methods in order to enhance its efficiency, and requests it to assess the progress made after two years, taking into account the wider context of treaty body reform;

10. *Calls upon* all States and relevant actors concerned to continue to cooperate with the special rapporteurs and special representatives of the United Nations system in the implementation of their mandates;

11. *Requests* all relevant organs of the United Nations system, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and United Nations mechanisms regularly and systematically to incorporate a strong child rights perspective as well as a gender perspective throughout all activities in the fulfilment of their mandates, as well as to ensure that their staff is trained in child protection matters, and calls upon States to cooperate closely with them;

Promoting and protecting the rights of children and non-discrimination against children, including children in particularly difficult situations

Identity, family relations and birth registration

12. *Urges* all States to intensify their efforts in order to ensure the implementation of the right of the child to birth registration, preservation of identity, including nationality, and family relations, as recognized by law, by:

(*a*) Providing, at minimal cost, simplified, expeditious and effective procedures for birth registration;

(*b*) Raising awareness at the national, regional and local levels, whenever necessary, of the importance of birth registration;

(*c*) Guaranteeing, to the extent consistent with each State's obligations, the right of a child whose parents reside in different States to maintain, on a regular basis, save in exceptional circumstances, personal relations and direct contact with both parents by providing means of access and visitation in both States and by respecting the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of their children;

(*d*) Where alternative care is necessary, promoting family and community-based care in preference to placement in institutions;

13. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to prevent and combat illegal adoptions;

14. *Calls upon* all States to adopt and enforce laws and improve the implementation of policies and programmes to protect children growing up without parents and caregivers, in particular orphaned and other vulnerable children, from all forms of violence, neglect, abuse and exploitation, and to ensure their access to education, health and social services;

15. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by orphaned and other vulnerable children and to take effective measures against violations of those rights;

16. *Calls upon* all States to address cases of international abduction of children, and encourages States to engage in multilateral and bilateral cooperation so as to facilitate, inter alia, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention and, in this respect, to pay particular attention to cases of international abduction of children by a parent or by other relatives;

Poverty

17. *Calls upon* States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels, recognizing that strengthened availability and effective allocation of resources are required at all of these levels, in order to ensure that all the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including those set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[a] are realized within their time framework, and reaffirms that investments in children and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty;

Health

18. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the right of the child, without discrimination, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to develop sustainable health systems and social services, to ensure access to such systems and services without discrimination and to pay particular attention to adequate food and nutrition to prevent disease and malnutrition, to prenatal and post-natal health care, to the special needs of adolescents and to reproductive and sexual health;

19. *Urges* all States to assign priority to activities and programmes aimed at preventing the abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and inhalants as well as preventing other addictions, in particular addiction to alcohol and tobacco, among children and young people, especially those in vulnerable situations, and to counter the use of children and young people in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

20. *Calls upon* all States to give support and rehabilitation to children and their families affected by HIV/AIDS and to involve children and their caregivers, as well as the private sector, to ensure the effective prevention of HIV infections through correct information and access to voluntary and confidential care, treatment and

[a] See resolution 55/2.

testing, including pharmaceutical products and medical technologies, affordable to all, giving due importance to the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of the virus;

Education

21. *Also calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To recognize the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination by making primary education compulsory and available free to all children, by ensuring that all children have access to education of good quality, as well as by making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, in particular by the progressive introduction of free education, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access, including affirmative action, contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion;

(*b*) To design and implement programmes to provide social services and support to pregnant adolescents and adolescent mothers, in particular by enabling them to continue and complete their education;

(*c*) To take all appropriate measures to prevent racism and discriminatory and xenophobic attitudes and behaviour through education, keeping in mind the important role that children play in changing those practices;

(*d*) To ensure that children, from an early age, benefit from education programmes, materials and activities that develop respect for human rights and reflect fully the values of peace, non-violence against oneself and others, tolerance and gender equality;

(*e*) To harness the rapidly evolving information and communication technologies to support education at an affordable cost, including open and distance education, while reducing inequality in access and quality;

(*f*) To enable children, including adolescents, to exercise their right to express their views freely, according to their evolving capacity, and build self-esteem, acquire knowledge and skills, such as those for conflict resolution, decision-making and communication, to meet the challenges of life;

22. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to implement its mandated role in coordinating Education for All, as a means of reaching the commitments contained in the Millennium Declaration in this regard;

23. *Urges* States:

(*a*) To take measures to protect schoolchildren from violence, injury or abuse, including sexual abuse and intimidation or maltreatment in schools, to establish complaint mechanisms that are age-appropriate and accessible to children and to undertake thorough and prompt investigations of all acts of violence and discrimination;

(*b*) To take measures to eliminate the use of corporal punishment in schools;

Freedom from violence

24. *Calls upon* States:

(*a*) To take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence, including physical, mental and sexual violence, torture, child abuse, domestic violence, and abuse by police, other law enforcement authorities

and employees and officials in detention centres or welfare institutions, including orphanages;

(*b*) To investigate and submit cases of torture and other forms of violence against children to the competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution and to impose appropriate disciplinary or penal sanctions against those responsible for such practices;

25. *Calls upon* all States to end impunity for perpetrators of crimes committed against children, recognizing in this regard the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a way to prevent violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular when children are victims of serious crimes, including the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, to bring perpetrators of such crimes to justice and not grant amnesties for these crimes and to strengthen international cooperation towards the goal of ending impunity;

26. *Requests* all relevant human rights mechanisms, in particular special rapporteurs and working groups, within their mandates, to pay attention to the special situations of violence against children, reflecting their experiences in the field;

27. *Invites* the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

Non-discrimination

28. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that children are entitled to their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination of any kind;

29. *Notes with concern* the large number of children, particularly girls and children belonging to minorities, who are among the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child and respect for his or her views, in programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and calls upon States to provide special support and ensure equal access to services for all children;

The girl child

30. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures, including legal reforms where appropriate:

(*a*) To ensure the full and equal enjoyment by girls of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to take effective actions against violations of those rights and freedoms and to base programmes and policies on the rights of the child, taking into account the special situation of girls;

(*b*) To eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, rape, sexual abuse and harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation, the root causes of son preference, marriages without free and full consent of the intending spouses, early marriages and forced sterilization, by enacting and enforcing legislation and, where appropriate, formulating comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies protecting girls;

Children with disabilities

31. *Also calls upon* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children with disabilities in both the public and the private spheres, including access to good quality education and health care and protection from violence, abuse and neglect, and to develop and, where it already exists, to enforce legislation to prohibit discrimination against them to ensure their dignity, promote their self-reliance and facilitate their active participation and integration in the community, taking into account the particularly difficult situation of children with disabilities living in poverty;

32. *Encourages* the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities to continue to consider the issue of children with disabilities in its deliberations;

Migrant children

33. *Calls upon* all States to ensure, for migrant children, the enjoyment of all human rights as well as access to health care, social services and education of good quality and to ensure that migrant children, and especially those who are unaccompanied, in particular victims of violence and exploitation, receive special protection and assistance;

Children working and/or living on the street

34. *Also calls upon* all States to prevent violations of the rights of children working and/or living on the street, including discrimination, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial, arbitrary and summary executions, torture, all kinds of violence and exploitation, and to bring the perpetrators to justice, to adopt and implement policies for the protection, social and psychosocial rehabilitation and reintegration of these children and to adopt economic, social and educational strategies to address the problems of children working and/or living on the street;

Refugee and internally displaced children

35. *Further calls upon* all States to protect refugee, asylum-seeking and internally displaced children, in particular those who are unaccompanied, who are particularly exposed to risks in connection with armed conflict, such as recruitment, sexual violence and exploitation, to pay particular attention to programmes for voluntary repatriation and, wherever possible, local integration and resettlement, to give priority to family tracing and reunification and, where appropriate, to cooperate with international humanitarian and refugee organizations, including by facilitating their work;

Child labour

36. *Calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour that is likely to be hazardous to or interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour, to promote education as a key strategy in this regard, including the creation of vocational training and apprenticeship programmes and the integration of working children into the formal education system, and to examine and devise economic policies, where necessary, in

cooperation with the international community, that address factors contributing to these forms of child labour;

37. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973 (Convention No. 138) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182) of the International Labour Organization, and calls upon States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations;

Children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law

38. *Calls upon*:

(*a*) All States, in particular States in which the death penalty has not been abolished, to comply with their obligations as assumed under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, including, in particular, articles 37 and 40 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and articles 6 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[6] keeping in mind the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty and the guarantees set out in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and 1989/64 of 24 May 1989, and calls upon those States to abolish by law, as soon as possible, the death penalty for those below the age of 18 years at the time of the commission of the offence;

(*b*) All States to ensure that no child in detention is sentenced to forced labour or corporal punishment or deprived of access to and provision of health-care services, hygiene and environmental sanitation, education, basic instruction and vocational training, taking into consideration the special needs of children with disabilities in detention, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention;

Recovery and social reintegration

39. *Encourages* States to promote actions, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance, for the social reintegration of children in difficult situations, considering, inter alia, views, skills and capacities that these children have developed in the conditions in which they lived and, where appropriate, with their meaningful participation;

40. *Recognizes* that children affected by the severe impact of natural disasters must be provided with access to basic social services;

Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

41. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To criminalize and penalize effectively all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including all acts of paedophilia, including within the family or for commercial purposes, child pornography and child prostitution, child sex tourism, trafficking in children, the sale of children and their organs and the use

[6] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

of the Internet for these purposes, and to take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

(*b*) To ensure the prosecution of offenders, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country in which the crime was committed, or in the country of which the offender is a national or resident, or in the country of which the victim is a national, or on any other basis permitted under domestic law in accordance with due process of law, and for these purposes, to afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings;

(*c*) To increase cooperation at all levels to prevent and dismantle networks trafficking in children;

(*d*) To consider ratifying or acceding to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[4]

(*e*) In cases of trafficking in children, the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to address effectively the needs of victims, including their safety and protection, physical and psychological recovery and full reintegration into their family and society;

(*f*) To combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children, including through the adoption, effective application and enforcement of preventive, rehabilitative and punitive measures targeting customers or individuals who sexually exploit or sexually abuse children, as well as by ensuring public awareness;

(*g*) To contribute to the elimination of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography by adopting a holistic approach, addressing the contributing factors, including underdevelopment, poverty, economic disparities, inequitable socio-economic structures, dysfunctional families, lack of education, urban-rural migration, gender discrimination, irresponsible adult sexual behaviour, harmful traditional practices, armed conflicts and trafficking in children;

Children affected by armed conflict

42. *Reaffirms* the essential roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights in promoting and protecting the rights and welfare of children, notes the importance of the debates held by the Security Council on children and armed conflict and its resolutions,[10] and takes note of other recent documents on this issue[11] and of the importance of the undertaking by the Council to give special attention to the protection, welfare and rights of children in armed conflict when taking action aimed at maintaining peace and security, including provisions for the protection of children in the mandates of peacekeeping operations, as well as the inclusion of child protection advisers in those operations;

[10] Security Council resolutions 1379 (2001), 1460 (2003) and 1539 (2004).

[11] A/58/546-S/2003/1053 and Corr.1 and 2 and A/59/184-S/2004/602.

43. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive assessment of the United Nations system response to children affected by armed conflict;[12]

44. *Also takes note* of the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;[13]

45. *Recognizes* the inclusion in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[14] as a war crime, of crimes involving sexual violence and crimes of conscripting or enlisting children under the age of 15 years or using them to participate actively in hostilities in both international and non-international armed conflicts;

46. *Strongly condemns* any recruitment and use of children in armed conflict contrary to international law, and urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged in such practices to end them;

47. *Recognizes* the efforts of States, the United Nations system and civil society to end the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict;

48. *Calls upon* States:

(*a*) When ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[15] to raise the minimum age for voluntary recruitment of persons into the national armed forces from that set out in article 38, paragraph 3, of the Convention, bearing in mind that under the Convention persons under 18 years of age are entitled to special protection, and to adopt safeguards to ensure that such recruitment is not forced or coerced;

(*b*) To take all feasible measures to ensure the demobilization and effective disarmament of children used in armed conflicts and to implement effective measures for their rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society, taking into account the rights and the specific needs and capacities of girls;

(*c*) To take all feasible measures, as a matter of priority, to prevent the recruitment and use of children by armed groups, as distinct from the armed forces of a State, including the adoption of legal measures necessary to prohibit and criminalize such practices;

(*d*) To protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian assistance in accordance with the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[16] and international humanitarian law;

49. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to cooperate with States in the development of projects to build capacity and to educate and train demobilized children in order to reintegrate them into society;

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[12] A/59/331.

[13] A/59/426.

[14] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I, *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[15] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

Follow-up

50. *Urges* those States that have not yet done so to complete as soon as possible a national action plan incorporating the goals agreed at the special session of the General Assembly on children, as reflected in its outcome document entitled "A world fit for children",[5] and to place those goals within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[2]

51. *Decides:*

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to prepare an updated report on the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the document entitled "A world fit for children", with a view to identifying new challenges and making recommendations on the action needed to achieve further progress;

(*b*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a report on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention and the issues addressed in the present resolution;

(*c*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and to ensure that they contain relevant, accurate and objective information on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, taking into account the views of Member States and the outcome document adopted by the General Assembly at its special session on children and bearing in mind existing mandates and reports of relevant bodies;

(*d*) To invite the Chairman of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

(*e*) To focus its general debate regarding the promotion of the rights of the child, at future sessions, on specific challenges, beginning, at its sixtieth session, with the contribution that the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child can make to the eradication of poverty and hunger;

(*f*) To continue its consideration of the question at its sixtieth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 105 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.1)*]

59/262. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Guided by the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and other relevant human rights instruments, and reaffirming the obligation of States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Recalling also the entry into force of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on 1 July 2003,

Considering that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[2] all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and their families and are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

Bearing in mind the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations, as well as in the International Organization for Migration,

Conscious of the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Deeply concerned at the manifestations of violence, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance and inhuman and degrading treatment directed against migrants in various parts of the world,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Recognizing the urgent need to make further efforts worldwide to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families, and aware of the important contribution of the Convention in this regard,

1. *Welcomes* the increasing number of signatures, ratifications or accessions to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, calls upon States parties to undertake the necessary measures for the implementation of the Convention, and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention;[3]

2. *Calls upon* all Member States that have not yet done so to consider urgently signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention, with the aim of achieving a broader participation by Member States in the Convention;

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as the report on its first session, held in Geneva from 1 to 5 March 2004,[4] and takes note of the rules of procedure adopted by the Committee;[5]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all the necessary facilities and assistance for the effective functioning of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, making efficient use of available resources;

5. *Invites* the Committee to take into account the work done by other human rights treaty bodies and special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights to promote and protect the human rights of migrant workers, as well as the work of other international forums and other parts of the United Nations system in addressing issues of international migration;

6. *Also invites* the Committee to take into account the efforts by the other human rights treaty bodies and the Secretary-General aimed at improving the effectiveness of the treaty body system;

7. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to submit in due time their first periodic report, as requested in article 73 of the Convention;

8. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to consider making the declarations foreseen in articles 76 and 77 of the Convention;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the facilities and assistance necessary for the active promotion of the Convention through the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

10. *Welcomes* the increasing activities undertaken by the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate information on and promote understanding of the importance of the Convention, and invites them to intensify further their efforts in this regard;

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[3] A/59/328.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 48* (A/59/48).

[5] Ibid., annex IV.

11. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants in relation to the Convention, and encourages her to persevere in her efforts;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an updated report on the status of the Convention and on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 105 (c)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.3)*]

59/263. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all States Members of the United Nations have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and the duty to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Reaffirming also its previous resolutions on the human rights situation in Myanmar, the most recent of which is resolution 58/247 of 23 December 2003, those of the Commission on Human Rights, the most recent of which is resolution 2004/61 of 21 April 2004,[1] and the conclusions of the special sitting of the Committee on the Application of Standards of the International Labour Conference of 5 June 2004,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 1460 (2003) of 30 January 2003 and 1539 (2004) of 22 April 2004,

Recognizing that good governance, democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights are essential to achieving sustainable development and economic growth,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General[2] and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar;[3]

(*b*) The personal engagement of the Secretary-General with the situation in Myanmar and his statement of 17 August 2004, in which he calls upon the Government of Myanmar to release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi immediately and to engage in substantive dialogue with the National League for Democracy and other political parties;

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] A/59/269.

[3] See A/59/311.

(*c*) The establishment by the Government of a committee for the prevention of military recruitment of underage children and its discussions with the United Nations Children's Fund towards concluding a plan of action, and stresses the need for the Government to work closely with the Fund;

(*d*) The resumption of peace talks between the Government of Myanmar and the Karen National Union;

(*e*) The access to the eastern part of Myanmar of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. *Expresses its grave concern* at:

(*a*) The ongoing systematic violation of the human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, of the people of Myanmar, in particular as outlined in previous resolutions concerning the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent of which are General Assembly resolution 58/247 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/61;[1]

(*b*) The events of 30 May 2003 and the continuing detention and house arrest of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and members of the National League for Democracy;

(*c*) The fact that the Myanmar authorities have yet to implement recommendations contained in the aforementioned resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

(*d*) The fact that the Myanmar authorities have not permitted the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Myanmar to visit for over six months, or the Special Rapporteur to visit for almost twelve months, despite repeated requests;

(*e*) The continuing restrictions placed on the National League for Democracy and other political parties which prevented them from participating in the National Convention;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar:

(*a*) To end the systematic violations of human rights in Myanmar, including extrajudicial killings, the use of torture, the use of rape and other forms of sexual violence persistently carried out by members of the armed forces, discrimination and violations suffered in particular by persons belonging to ethnic minorities, women and children and violations of the right to an adequate standard of living; to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms; to end impunity; and to investigate and bring to justice any perpetrators of human rights violations, including members of the military and other government agents in all circumstances;

(*b*) To ensure that the next session of the National Convention is fully inclusive of all political parties and representatives and all major ethnic nationalities not represented by a political party, and that participants are guaranteed freedom of association and freedom of expression, including freedom of the media and unlimited access to information for the people of Myanmar, and guarantees the safety of all participants;

(*c*) To restore democracy and respect the results of the 1990 elections by, inter alia, releasing immediately and unconditionally the leadership of the National League for Democracy, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and members of the League detained on or after 30 May 2003, as well as other prisoners of conscience,

and to cease the ongoing harassment of the League and other political parties and allow the reopening of the offices of the League throughout the country;

(*d*) To release immediately and unconditionally all detained or imprisoned political prisoners;

(*e*) To initiate a full and independent inquiry, with international cooperation, into the Depayin incident of 30 May 2003, as called for by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

(*f*) To cooperate fully with the Special Envoy and the Special Rapporteur in order to help to bring Myanmar towards a transition to civilian rule and to ensure that they are both granted without further delay full, free and unimpeded access to Myanmar and that no person cooperating with the Special Envoy, the Special Rapporteur or any international organization is subjected to any form of intimidation, harassment or punishment, and to review as a matter of urgency the case of those undergoing punishment in this regard;

(*g*) To consider as a matter of high priority becoming a party to all relevant human rights instruments;

(*h*) To take immediate action to implement fully concrete legislative, executive and administrative measures to eradicate the practice of forced labour by all organs of Government, including the armed forces, to cooperate with the International Labour Organization, and to implement fully the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry established to examine the observance by Myanmar of the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (Convention No. 29), of the International Labour Organization;

(*i*) To put an immediate end to the recruitment and use of child soldiers and to extend full cooperation to relevant international organizations in order to ensure the demobilization of child soldiers, their return home and their rehabilitation in accordance with recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child;[4]

(*j*) To end the policy of the systematic enforced displacement of persons and other policies leading to displacement within Myanmar and refugee flows to neighbouring countries, to provide the necessary protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and to respect the right of refugees to voluntary, safe and dignified return monitored by appropriate international agencies;

(*k*) To immediately ensure the safe and unhindered access to all parts of Myanmar of the United Nations and international humanitarian organizations so as to ensure the provision of humanitarian assistance and to guarantee that it reaches the most vulnerable groups of the population, including internally displaced persons and returnees;

(*l*) To pursue through dialogue and peaceful means an immediate end to conflict with all remaining ethnic groups with which ceasefire agreements have not yet been signed;

(*m*) To formulate a clear and detailed plan for the transition to democracy, which includes concrete timing and the involvement of all political groups and ethnic nationalities in a way that ensures the process is transparent and inclusive;

[4] See CRC/C/15/Add.237.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government and people of Myanmar, including all relevant parties to the national reconciliation process in Myanmar;

(*b*) To give all necessary assistance to enable his Special Envoy and the Special Rapporteur to discharge their mandate fully and effectively;

(*c*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its sixty-first session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this question at its sixtieth session.

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004